Dear Ms. Hunt, 1/28/94

As by now you know, I appreciated the copy of your book very much. Sorry it took Jim Lesar so many months, busy as he is, to forward it so you'd know.

I think I also wrote you, asking him to forward that, but my once-photographic memory is no longer.

Jonathan Reyes sent me your few notes on Posner and the Lexis printouts you got. When I got them and when I was trying to learn your address I wanted to use them in a book the rough draft of which I finished in October. I finally did, assuming you would not object to being credited as the Lexis source. Now I wonder if that will be included in the 60-70 percent just dropped. The book was to have been rushed and to have been available next month, pub date in March. If what I've just read represents what is to be published it has been gutted, got no editing at all and needs it, and has had what remains rearranged illogically. But I have no choice at my age and state of health. The draft is about 200,000 word and factually solid. I doubt a writer has ever had as a thorough a living autopsy.

I'm still interested in Posner, if you have anything you think would be of value for the historical record. All I have will be at Hood College, a fine small local one.

Sorry about my typing. It cannot be any better.

Jim gave me your address in his usual rush by means of a xerox of his 1/25 to you. If your Peron interest is broader than the CIA, perhaps I can be of some help. I know I can refer you to others who, if still alive, can be valuable to you.

In the OSS in world war II I wound up an analyst in the Latin American Division. I was in the part that was later transferred to State and then, along with real Latin-Americansts, which I was not, was caught up in a McCarran Rider pogrom. The academics were about to slink away, hoping to resume their academic careers. I got the three others in my division to agree for me to start our defense. In the end we were rehired with a public apology and then quit. More if that interests you.

Two of the others (we were four of ten) were Margaret Mead's protegés, all were PhDs, and the fourth was a professor of Latin American history. The first two were Irving Goldman and Alexander Lesser, the third Woodrow Borah. Goldman was in charge of the Rio Platte area as the work was divided, sort of section chief. He and Lesser were New Yorkers, Borah a Californian.

I presume you know about the Blue Book on Argentina. The economic end was mine, rather the research for it. I wonder if you ought file a FOIA request of State? Of course I do not know what your project is. Perhaps the research and the drafts still exist. My part traced the Nazi and Fascist economic influence on the Peron regime.

As you may know, Nelson Rockefeller made policy by just not using that Blue book as he was to have at Chapultepec. So the American states then did not oppose Argentina's admission into the UN. Then State decided to try again, at the San Francisco organiza-

tional meeting. I was then put in charge of the military end. But when I got to thinking about it, I decided that was bad policy, that it would incite even more cries of Yankee imperialism (so justified!) and I asked to be and was relieved of it. That was the beginning of the end of my career as a federal employee.

I did continue for a short while to help on that project. As you may have learned, so many fine scholars just do not know how to do anything practical outside their fields. Initially my work there included doing for all those PhD's what they hadn't the slightest idea how to do. So, for that failed project I arranged for them to have microfilm readers that were not provided, things like that. All unofficial but in place.

Of course I was not surprised that the notion failed at San Francisco.

I am certain that if they are still alive, all three of those really fine men and excellent scholars are retired. Last I heard of Lesser he was with an Indian (native American) group.

On the Argentina desk then was a very bright woman named Isabel Rennie. She then lived in Arlington, Virginia. She was as anti-Peron as she was anti-USSR, real and imagined.

If the historian Karel Deutsch, a real play-it-safer-than-safe type is still alive he may know how to reach the others. He has probable retired from Yale or Harvard. He headed the historical association for a while when at either school.

When we were transferred to State we were part of as I recall Research and Analysis.

Some OSS records went to the CIA. I doubt those did.

If your interests includes it, many foreign-office records, German and Italian, were captured and microfilmed and sent here. Some of the microfilm and some of the copies of documents passed through my hands for a while. I recall None on Peron but there may be some. Some may even have been published officially.

By the way, if you can still check Lexis, your notes indicate that neither Posner nor the firm ever filed a suit. The firm is still Posner & Ferrara, 515 Fifth Ave. Can you run a check on Joseph Ferrara? To see if any were filed in his name?

I have the ugly suspicion that Posner used the victims of Mengele to make his book possible and did not want to file suit if he ever intended to. With his background I cannot see any other way for him to have financed himself other than help from them.

I did not make the selections for this book. My impression on reading the proofs long ago is that someone had pretty good jidgement. Please remember that when I had to become a publisher and a printer other than the presses and bindery it was all rough drafts my wife retyped. But, happily, it stacks.

Best wishes,

Harold Weisberg

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